

FLAT EARTH THEATRE PRESENTS

EDWARD ALBEE'S

The Goat  
or, Who is Sylvia?

Directed by Melissa Cogswell

January 7th - 15th, 2011  
Arsenal Center for the Arts  
Watertown, MA

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THE GOAT OR, WHO IS SYLVIA?  
Directed by Melissa Cogswell

CAST

MARTIN David Policar  
STEVIE Janet Ferreri  
BILLY Erin Gilligan  
ROSS Bill Barnert

CREW

PRODUCER Jake Scaltreto  
STAGE MANAGER Amy Lehrmitt  
SET DESIGNER Nate Kruback  
COSTUME DESIGNER Coriana Hunt Swartz  
LIGHTING DESIGNER Adam Teti  
PROPERTY MANAGER Maddi Chapin  
SPECIAL PROPS DESIGN Nate Kruback  
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR Rebecca Dunham  
MASTER CARPENTER Leigh Downes  
POSTER DESIGNER Jennifer Jermantowicz  
ORIGINAL ARTWORK Amelia Fountain  
BUILD CREW Rebecca Dunham  
Kevin Kordis  
Sean Paul  
Jake Scaltreto

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Edward Albee was born on March 12, 1928, and began writing plays 30 years later. His plays include *The Zoo Story* (1958), *The American Dream* (1960), *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (1961-62, Tony Award), *Tiny Alice* (1964), *A Delicate Balance* (1966, Pulitzer Prize; 1996, Tony Award), *All Over* (1971), *Seascape* (1974, Pulitzer Prize), *The Lady From Dubuque* (1977-78), *The Man Who Had Three Arms* (1981), *Finding The Sun* (1982), *Marriage Play* (1986-87), *Three Tall Women* (1991, Pulitzer Prize), *Fragments* (1993), *The Play About The Baby* (1997), and *Occupant* (2001). He is a member of the Dramatists Guild Council, and President of The Edward F. Albee Foundation. Mr. Albee was awarded the Gold Medal in Drama from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters in 1980, and in 1996 received the Kennedy Center Honors and the National Medal of Arts.

**SPECIAL NOTES**

Please note that during the performance objects will be broken on stage, and patrons are advised to be cautious when entering or exiting the theatre. For your personal safety, we ask that you remain in your seat at the start of intermission so we may clear the stage of any debris.

Originally produced on Broadway by Elizabeth Ireland McCann, Daryl Roth, Carol Shorenstein Hays, Terry Allen Kramer, Scott Rudin, Bob Boyett, Scott Nederlander, Sine/ZPI.

*The Goat or, Who is Sylvia?* is presented by special arrangement with  
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The work that any artist does, me included, is a public presentation of a specific facet of the artist. It is a chance to present to the world a specific point of view, interpretation of an experience, or opinion. Often, as is the case with my experience with *The Goat or, Who is Sylvia?* it is a chance to process an experience, both intellectually and emotionally, in order to come to a better understanding of the self.

I have lived my life with a worldview forced upon me by biology, or experience, which is unlike most people. Nine years ago I was diagnosed with bi-polar disorder, a turbulent, debilitating, and often deadly mental illness. Up until recently, this was not something I spoke of; in fact it was a source of deep shame and fear, something I worked very hard to hide from the world.

Recently, due in large part to this production, I have come to realize that who I am, though it may be seen in the eyes of some as "sick" or "crazy" is not something to be ashamed of, rather it is something to embrace. I have a full comprehension of Martin's anguish when the world simply cannot understand what he feels and why he feels it; I am personally acquainted with the pain that Stevie feels because something entirely out of her control has entered her life, destroying what she knows and loves. Living with bi-polar has granted me a chance to face these emotions and come out the other side, certainly not unscathed, but alive and able to share my tale. This is one way for me to share that tale. Working with the text of *The Goat* and the four talented actors you see before you has given me a chance to process, learn about, understand, and now share a part of myself that has always existed, but often been denied.

I also owe many, many thanks. My experiences made this creatively possible, but so many others were involved in bringing it to life. Thank you to my amazing cast. You are brilliant. Thank you to my stage manager, Ames. You keep me balanced and caffeinated and I cannot imagine directing without you. Thank you to the production team and designers who made file miginion on a McDonald's budget. Your creativity is inspiring. Thank you to my parents, Wanda and Brian, your unwavering love and support is why I am still alive today. Finally, thank you, Josh; I think you're great.

## CAST BIOS

**David Policar (Martin)** - David Policar is delighted to be part of his first Flat Earth production, and to add "zoophilic architect" to his list of theatrical portrayals. It is an ecstasy and a purity and a love of an unimaginable kind, and it relates to nothing whatever, to nothing that can be related to. As always, he thanks his partner -- wait, no, that's "husband" now! -- Paulo for putting up with him.

**Janet Ferreri (Stevie)** - Janet is beyond thrilled to be playing Stevie in Flat Earth's production of *The Goat*. Past shows include *Mame* (Mame), *Sweeney Todd* (Beggar Woman), *Six Degrees of Separation* (Ouisa), *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (Jean), *Company* (Joanne), *42nd Street* (Dorothy Brock), *Nine* (Liliane LaFleur), *Anything Goes* (Reno), and *Into the Woods* (Witch).

**Erin William Gilligan (Billy)** - Erin is thrilled to be making his debut with Flat Earth Theatre. Recent Boston roles include *Quills* and *Durang/Durang*. Some of Erin's favorite roles have been Trinculo in *The Tempest*, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Ethan in *The Altruists*, and Happy in *Death of a Salesman*. As always, a huge thank you to family and friends who always make the stress of doing a show on top of living a life that much easier. It is only when we have stability that we can really relish the time to play. Enjoy!

**Bill Barnet (Ross)** - Bill Barnert was last seen as multiple characters in the three episodes of *Atreus, Inc.* at ImprovBoston in Cambridge. Regional productions include Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along* (Theatre To Go, Stoneham), and *How To Succeed in Business...* (Wakefield Repertory Theatre). Bill sang with the BGMC for ten years. And like Ross, Bill has been a television interviewer, for PrideTime and SpeakOut TV. Someday, he hopes to voice the plant in *Little Shop of Horrors*. And he makes a much better uncle than you'd guess from his role in *The Goat*. (Right, Andrea? Aaron? Ricky?)

## SPECIAL THANKS

Arsenal Center for the Arts  
Church of the Good Shepherd  
Martin Holbrook  
Boston Light & Sound  
Dan Beedy  
Dawn & David Scaltreto  
Kathy & Craig Lehrmitt  
Josh Michel  
Justus Perry  
James Rossi  
Shauna Gordon-McKeon  
Kevin Kordis

*Additional set dressing courtesy of*  
Linda DiCarlo  
Trinkets and Treasures  
Newton, MA

### **Extra Special Thanks To Our Pantheon Members:**

Joseph Scaltreto  
Sarah Smith & Fred Perry  
Stephen Burgay  
Mark Steadman

Flat Earth is a proud member of the

**small theatre**  
**ALLIANCE**  
**of boston**

FlatEarth  
theatre

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